

Administrative Record and NEPA Determination

Six Rivers National Forest

Little Gulch Timber Sale Temporary Area Closure

The Little Gulch Timber Sale on the Mad River Ranger District, Six Rivers National Forest, is operating this field season. Logging operations will occur on National Forest system (NFS) Roads 27N33 and 27N38. Heavy truck traffic will be occurring on these roads, as well as on tributary spur roads in the Little Gulch Timber Sale closure area.

It is my decision to reissue the order to extend the dates for this temporary area closure to provide for public safety during logging operations on the Little Gulch Timber Sale. There will be logging equipment operating on and adjacent to these roads and the trail, that involves removal and hauling of logs to the Trinity River Lumber Company. There are inherent dangers associated with logging with heavy equipment working on and adjacent to the roads, log truck traffic, branches, and other debris falling from the canopy. These Forest roads are single lane roads, with turnouts and it would be difficult to provide for public safety during logging operations, throughout the course of the day.

The closure will be in effect Monday through Friday, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from December 8, 2011, through January 31, 2012. The private property owner adjacent to Road 27N33 will have permission to access his in-holdings during this time. The Forest Order will be posted on all affected roads and trails, and on the Six Rivers National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sixrivers/special> under closure notices.

I have determined that this action is in a category of actions that are excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement. The category of exclusion is Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, 31.12(1). Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR Part 261 – Prohibition to provide for short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety. As a result of the above mentioned analysis I find there are no extraordinary circumstances that might cause the action to have significant environmental effects.

/s/Tyrone Kelley

TYRONE KELLEY

Forest Supervisor

Six Rivers National Forest

December 7, 2011

Date